(b) and (c) Bearers have avenue of promotion to Group 'C' posts of Sales Incharge/Junior Clerk/Bill Issuer (Rs. 825—1200) and Stores-cum-Accounts Clerks (Rs. 950—1500), from where they can progress in the cadre of Catering Managers where at the level of Asstt. Catering Managers a quota for promotion has been fixed and then right upto the post of Chief Catering Manager (Rs. 2000—3200). etc.

(d) Avenue of promotion available to Bearers are considered adequate.

Book Stalls on Indian Railways

1052. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the contracts of book stalls on Indian Railways are awarded/renewed for a period of five-years ;

(b) whether there is any book stall contract on Indian Railways which has been renewed for a period of nine years ; and

(c) if so, what is the justification for adopting two types of procedures for the same type of licences ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In 1967, it was decided to delete the clause of "Automatic renewal" from the agreements of M/s A. H. Wheeler and Co. and M/s Higginbotham but to extend their period of agreements from 5 years to 9 years.

Amount Paid by M/s A. H. Wheeler and Co. Etc.

1053. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state what are the details of amount paid by M/s A. H. Wheeler and Company and M/s Higgins Bothams and Company, Madras, separately as a royalty, Station-wise, on the Western, Central, Northern, South-Eastern, Eastern, South-Central, North-Eastern and North East Frontier Railways, month and year-wise from 1st January, 1988 to 31st December, 1991 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Reduction of Posts of Officers in Railways

1054. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided by Government recently to reduce 20% post of the higher grade officers in all the departments of Zonal Railways including Railway Board so as to reduce the expenditure thereon ;

(b) if so, what is the number of posts of Dy./Jt. Directors/Directors and Executive Directors that have been reduced from each Directorate of the Railway Board ; and

(c) the time fixed for implementation of the above decision ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) The Ministry of Railways have decided to keep the operation of a certain number (not 20%) of higher grade posts in abeyance as an economy measure.

(b) and (c) The following six posts have been held in abeyance, namely (i) one Member of the Railway Board (ii) Executive Director, Vigilance (Accounts) (iii) Joint Director (Training & Manpower Planning) (iv) Joint Director (Safety) (v) Railway Liaison Officer and (vi) Joint Director (Computerisation & Information Systems).

मध्य प्रदेश में आदर्श रेलवे स्टेशन

1055. **श्री राधाकिशन मालवीय** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में अब तक कितने रेलवे स्टेशनों को आदर्श रेलवे स्टेशनों में बदला जा चुका है ;